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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Volume of Employment Figures. It will be of interest to statisticians to learn that Secretary Davis of the United States Department of Labor has recently made a ruling under which the Bureau of Labor Statistics is to have the field in the collection and publication of volume of employment figures, while the Employment Service is to collect and publish such information concerning the labor market and opportunities for employment as may be needed in the administration of its work, which is defined to be to get jobs for the jobless men.

With this jurisdictional conflict settled, Commissioner Ethelbert Stewart announces that it is the purpose of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to extend at once volume of employment data to cover several more industries and to expand greatly the number of establishments and, hence, the number of employees in the industries now included in the survey. State arrangements will be made wherever possible. An arrangement similar to that now existing between the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and the state of New York has been practically completed with the state of Illinois, and other state agreements are under way. The Geological Survey will furnish information from the bituminous and anthracite coal mines, and the Bureau of Mines has expressed a willingness to supply similar information from the iron ore, copper, zinc, lead, silver and gold mines and from the smelting establishments. These will be individual establishment records. Railway transportation will be covered through the Interstate Commerce Commission. Immediately after the first of July the Bureau of Labor Statistics will put men in the field to form contacts with this enlarged list of establishments and industries and to complete state bureau arrangements wherever the states are willing to make a thorough canvass, and to establish a state record of volume of employment taken from the books of the establishments themselves.

It is the purpose of the Bureau to develop employment indexes by industries and a national index which will be a combination of all the industries covered. No attempt will be made to carry local indexes or indexes upon a basis of geographical areas, but assistance will be given to the states, where desired, in the compilation of state indexes from their local material. Commissioner Stewart further announces that the publication of this material will be continued as heretofore in the *Monthly Labor Review*, but that mimeographed statements of totals and indexes will be issued on or about the 5th of each month covering the payroll period as of the 15th of the preceding month.

Public Health in Denmark. In Danish history of public health the year 1921 is a record year, the rate of mortality being only 11 per 1,000. Out of a population of approximately 3,300,000 only 36,000 died. On the whole, public health in Denmark is standing very high. Even in the years 1918-19, when the "Spanish disease" reigned, the yearly rate of mortality was only 13 per 1,000. Danish statisticians boast that no other country has shown so low a death rate as that observed in Denmark in the past year. Still, our antipodes in New Zealand may claim a higher rank for their country, the rate of mortality

being on an average only 9-10 per 1,000, the influenza year, 1918, forming a single exception with its 15 per 1,000. It may be objected that this low rate is only a crude, not a "standardized," death rate, the low mortality being ascribed to the peculiar age distribution. Using the age distribution of Sweden as a standard we will find that New Zealand has an average mortality of about 12 per 1,000, and that the Commonwealth of Australia is a little above this level.

At all events, New Zealand has a remarkable advantage in its low infant mortality rate. Danish infant mortality is also low. In 1911-15 only 10 per cent of the new-born died within one year of age; in 1919-20 the number was reduced to 9 per cent, and in 1921, even to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. But in New Zealand infant mortality is on an average only 5 per cent, a fact which is ascribed to such matters as climate, virility of the race, comparative absence of large industrial undertakings, and partly to legislative and educative measures. There is much stimulation for all civilized nations in these observations. It seems possible to reduce infant mortality even more, for instance, to 3-4 per cent, the harvest of death being confined only to infants born with very delicate constitutions.

Denmark has a considerable *natural increase* of population, the excess of births over deaths being in yearly average about 12 per 1,000. Before the World War about one fourth of this excess, about 7,000 yearly, emigrated; but during and after the war emigration has been greatly reduced. Since 1880 about a quarter of a million have left Denmark as oversea emigrants, the majority of them founding their new homes in the United States of America.

HARALD WESTERGAARD

Bulletins of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Occupation Hazards and Diagnostic Signs*, by Louis I. Dublin, has just appeared as Bulletin No. 306. In this publication Dr. Dublin pushed forward the studies first launched in this country through Bulletin No. 100 of the Bureau, which contains a list of industrial poisons and other substances injurious to health found in industrial processes. Numerous attempts have since been made to restate this problem in simpler and more practical terms. For a long time the Bureau of Labor Statistics has been working upon a scheme to issue occupational disease handbooks which could be carried in the vest pockets of the workers, but so far the plan has not matured. In Bulletin No. 100, it will be remembered, the poison is made the unit, the branches of the industries in which the poison occurs is more or less adequately stated together with the mode of entrance into the body, and, finally, the symptoms of the poisoning. The Ohio Bureau two or three years ago revised and restated this information making the industry the unit and indicating what poisons were to be found in the industry, the mode of entrance into the body, etc. Dr. Dublin has published the guide to the hazards of occupations and the symptoms of the diseases they cause as issued to the 6,000 medical examiners of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and in these instructions we find not only that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has gone beyond the mere list of poisons but has called attention to the health hazards from working conditions such as dampness, extreme dry heat, sudden variations

of temperature, and inorganic dust. It is a brief but very valuable contribution to the practical side of the subject.

The Problem of Dust Phthisis in the Granite-Stone Industry, by Frederick L. Hoffman, appears as Bulletin No. 293. This report is without doubt Dr. Hoffman's ablest, most thorough and comprehensive publication relating to a single industry.

Industrial Unemployment: A Statistical Study of Its Extent and Causes, by Ernest S. Bradford, will be issued as Bulletin No. 310. Dr. Bradford's volume will be a handy reference to sources of information and to information that has already been published.

Nordisk Statistisk Tidskrift. Under this title a new Scandinavian statistical journal has been founded by the Swedish statistician, Thor Anderson. It may be doubted whether twelve million Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes are a sufficient basis for a journal with such a comparatively narrow program; but the editor has very wisely procured as contributors renowned statisticians of other countries. Thus, in the first number of the journal appear very interesting articles by Professor Tschuprow and Professor L. v. Bortkiewicz. On the whole, this first number is very promising, dealing as it does with various important problems of practical and theoretical value. H. W.

Labor and Industry. This is the name of a new monthly publication issued by the Department of Labor and Industry of Pennsylvania. It is the official organ of the department and is edited by Mr. S. P. Hollingsworth. The publication contains reports of the activities of the various bureaus in the department and presents data collected from time to time concerning the status of labor and industry.

Public Health Work. A continuous series of canvasses is being made by field assistants of the Statistical Office, U. S. Public Health Service, of approximately 2,000 typical families in Hagerstown, Md., for the purpose of recording the incidence and prevalence of ill health in a representative population group for at least a year. The canvass was begun in November, 1921, and is being carried on in conjunction with the Washington County Health Demonstration, which is conducted under the auspices of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, the Maryland State Board of Health, and other agencies. The records for the canvassed population of between 8,000 and 9,000 persons include family economic status, home and community sanitary conditions, and nativity, sex, age, and other facts regarding each individual.

At the annual meeting of the American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons held at St. Louis, May 22-23, a committee was appointed to cooperate with the Statistical Office of the U. S. Public Health Service in securing records in industrial plants of disabilities by cause among employees classified according to nativity, sex, age, and occupation, and according to physical status as determined by physical examinations. Dr. R. S. Quinby, of the Hood Rubber Company, Watertown, Mass., is chairman of the committee.

Committee on Educational and Professional Standards for Statisticians.

This Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Association in November, 1921, to consider educational and professional standards for statisticians, is preparing a preliminary report for the attention of the Association at its annual meeting next December. The Committee has been in correspondence with a number of representative statisticians here and abroad, and finds a general current of opinion in favor of a statement on educational fundamentals. In the preparation of the preliminary statement the opinion of these statisticians will be carefully considered.

Mr. Ethelbert Stewart, U. S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics, was invited by the University of Chicago to deliver a series of three lectures on how a great governmental statistical investigation is handled. Mr. Stewart delivered the lectures in May, describing step by step the methods and processes of a statistical investigation.

Dr. John Rice Miner, Associate in the Department of Biometry and Vital Statistics of the School of Hygiene at Johns Hopkins University, has been granted leave of absence for the next academic year, and will spend the time in study and travel abroad. During Dr. Miner's absence his position will be filled by Dr. Flora D. Sutton, who has for some time been connected with the Department in one capacity or another.

Dr. F. Stuart Chapin has resigned his position as Professor of Sociology at Smith College to become Professor of Sociology and Chairman of the Department of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Chapin takes up his new duties in September.

Dr. F. H. Hankins, formerly Professor of Sociology at Clark University, has resigned his position at Clark to become Professor of Sociology and head of the department at Smith College.

Dr. Raymond Pearl's series of Lowell Lectures on Biology of Death will shortly be published in revised and extended form as a book, by the J. B. Lippincott Company in its series of Monographs in Experimental Biology.

Dr. Lowell J. Reid, Associate Professor of Biometry and Vital Statistics in the School of Hygiene and Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed consultant in biometry and vital statistics in the U. S. Public Health Service.

Dr. H. R. Bonner, statistician of the Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., has resigned his position to take up on September 1 the duties of Director of Educational Research with the American Alcohol Education Association.

Miss Margaret G. Myers, of the Statistical and Research Bureau of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, was granted a leave of absence for the summer and taught in the Bryn Mawr Summer School.

Miss Katharine Snodgrass, who has recently resigned from the Division of Analysis and Research of the Federal Reserve Board, since their offices have been moved to Washington, has accepted a position with the newly organized statistics department of the Chemical National Bank.

In response to numerous requests, the Pollak Foundation for Economic Research has reprinted from the *Atlantic Monthly* for February, 1922, an article by Waddill Catchings entitled, "Our Common Enterprise: One Way Out for Labor and Capital." Copies may be obtained upon application to the Pollak Foundation, Newton 58, Massachusetts.

The President of the Association has appointed the Nominating Committee to nominate officers for 1923, to be considered and voted upon at the annual meeting in December, as follows: Carroll W. Doten, Chairman, Willford I. King, George P. Watkins.

MEMBERS ELECTED SINCE MAY

- Alexander, Carter, Asst. director of the Educational Finance Inquiry, 525 W. 120th St., New York City
Arnold, Herbert E., Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.
Bedinger, George R., Director, Health Service Dept., American Red Cross, New York County Chapter, New York City
Blakely, David N., Medical director, New England Mutual Life Ins. Co., Boston, Mass.
Boyd, George A., Bell Telephone Securities Co., 195 Broadway, New York City
Bristow, Helen G., Sugar Statistics, Lamborn & Co., New York City
Brunner, Edmund de S., Director, Town and Country Dept., Committee on Social and Religious Surveys, New York City
Clark, Evans, Labor Bureau Inc., New York City
Cothran, James R., Consulting actuary, Atlanta, Ga.
Cox, Emily M., Sugar Statistics, Lamborn & Co., New York City
Craster, Charles Vaughn, Dept. of Health, Newark, N. J.
Dochterman, Elsie F., Statistical Dept., Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., New York City
Emerson, Haven, Professor of Public Health Administration, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York City
Emmons, Lloyd C., Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich.
Fried, Orrin A., Statistical Dept., Industrial Commission, Madison, Wis.
Frost, Elliott, Director, Industrial Management Council, Chamber of Commerce, Rochester, N. Y.
Gould, Charles W., Cost accountant, L. L. Brown Paper Co., Adams, Mass.
Hall, William DePuy, Actuarial Dept., Mutual Trust Life Ins. Co., Chicago, Ill.
Haynes, Williams, Publisher of *Drug & Chemical Markets*, New York City
Hemenway, Earl L., President's Office, Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich.
Hendrick, Augustus C., 50 Buchanan Place, New York City
Jaquith, Walter A., Vice-president and medical director, National Life Ins. Co., Chicago, Ill.
Jacobs, Philip P., Publicity director, National Tuberculosis Ass'n, New York City